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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

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NNNNVV EIC320LAN122
RR RUEAIIB
ZNY SSSSS ZOC STATE ZZH
SUP267R
128728 FHB571 NOT PROCESSED TREAT AS ORIGINAL
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DE RUFHNA #0205/5025 3301145
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
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EXDIS

SALT

SECSTATE PLEASE PASS SECDEF

SUBJ: SALT: FRENCH DELEGATION UNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT THROW-
WEIGHT AND MIRVS.

1. AT FRENCH PERMREP'S INITIATIVE, FRENCH DELEGATION OFFICER ON NOVEMBER 23 GAVE USNATO OFFICER THE FOLLOWING SYNOPSIS OF WHAT FRENCH DELEGATION HAD UNDERSTOOD OF CERTAIN POINTS REGARDING MISSILE THROW-WEIGHT AND MIRVS MADE BY AMBASSADOR FARLEY AT NOVEMBER 15 SALT CONSULTATION.
2. USNATO OFFICER THOUGHT FRENCH UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN VERY CLOSE TO WHAT WAS SAID, BUT OFFERED TO TRANSMIT TEXT TO WASHINGTON FOR COMMENT. FRENCH WERE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF OFFER.
3. REQUEST COMMENT/CLARIFICATION THAT WE CAN PASS BACK TO FRENCH DELEGATION ON FOLLOWING (ORIGINAL TEXT IN FRENCH FOLLOWED BY OUR TRANSLATION):
 - A) QU'ON POURRAIT CHERCHER A REDUIRE, AU COURS DES CONVERSATIONS, LA DISPARITE ACTUELLE "IN MISSILE THROW-WEIGHT" (C'EST-A-DIRE LES CHARGES UTILES GLOBALES EXPRIMEES EN TERMES DE VOLUME).
 - B) LA CAPACITE DE REALISER DES MIRV SUR UN MISSILE EST

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PARTIELLEMENT PROPORTIONELLE A CE "THROW-WEIGHT".

C) EN REDUISANT LA DISPROPORTION ENTRE LES "THROW-WEIGHT" ACTUELLES DES USA ET DE L'URSS. CES LIMITATIONS SPECIFIQUES POURRAIENT S'APPLIQUER, EN PRIORITE, AUX SS-9 (MISSILES GROS PORTEURS).

4. A) AN ATTEMPT COULD BE MADE IN THE COURSE OF THE (SALT TWO) CONVERSATIONS TO REDUCE THE PRESENT DISPARITY IN MISSILE "THROW-WEIGHT" (THAT IS TO SAY OVERALL PAYLOADS EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF VOLUME).

B) THE CAPABILITY TO ACHIEVE MIRVING ON A MISSILE IS PARTIALLY PROPORTIONAL TO THIS THROW-WEIGHT.

C) REDUCING THE DISPARITY BETWEEN THE PRESENT THROW-WEIGHTS OF THE US AND USSR WOULD DIMINISH FUTURE SOVIET MIRV CAPABILITIES. THESE SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS COULD BE APPLIED, AS A PRIORITY, TO THE SS-9S (HEAVY MISSILE LAUNCHERS).

XGDS-3 KENNEDY

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